

49076.000002.UTL1
U.S. Patent

REMARKS

The Examiner has required restriction between the following groups of claims:

- a. Group I, claim(s) 15-22, 26, 27, 28, and 30, drawn to compositions comprising a fusion protein containing an antigenic domain linked to a receptor binding domain and expression vectors encoding said proteins, classified in class 435, subclass 69.7, class 424, subclasses 192.1, 208.1, 234.1, and 277.1, and class 530, subclass 350.
- b. Group II, claim (s) 15-21 and 23-33, drawn to nucleic acids encoding a fusion protein containing an antigenic domain linked to a receptor binding domain and expression vectors encoding said proteins, classified in class 536, subclass 23.72.

Applicants hereby elect with traverse Group I (claims 15-22, 26, 27, 28, 29, and 30) to be prosecuted in this application at this time.

In this response, Applicants have canceled claims 22, 25, 31, 32, and 33, and amended claims 15-21, 23, 24, and 26-30. Claims 15-21, 23, 24, and 26-30 are therefore pending. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the non-elected claims in this application in a related application at a latter date. The claims have been amended to remove polynucleotides from the composition, and to change the composition to a antigenic polypeptide. The instant claims are directed to a polypeptide having a single antigenic domain (HIV-gp160) and a single receptor binding domain (one that binds CD40, and which includes as a species CD154). No new matter has been added, full support for which can be found in the originally filed specification.

Applicant respectfully request entry of this amendment.

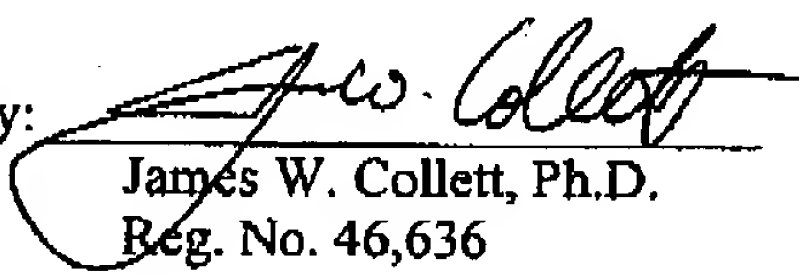
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CONCLUSION

A one-month extension of time is being filed simultaneously with this Response, and the Commissioner is hereby authorized to debit our Deposit Account No. 02-4553 in the amount of \$55.00. If this amount is incorrect, the Commissioner is further authorized to debit or credit said Deposit Account accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,

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